

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

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FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2894

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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CINCEUR FOR POLAD AND OPS

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:CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD, OPS, AEAGC-OCO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 154

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:

SUBJECT: SOVIETS IN BASC RENEW REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION OF
SEPTEMBER 4 AIR SAFETY PROPOSALS

REF: BONN 1277

1. LATE MORNING OF 25 JANUARY, AT REQUEST OF SOVIET
CHIEF CONTROLLER IN BASC, AMERICAN AND BRITISH CHIEF
CONTROLLERS MET WITH HIM AT 1230 LOCAL. AFTER
RAISING ROUTINE COMPLAINT ABOUT FLIGHT CARD FOR PANAM
FLIGHT PREVIOUS EVENING, SOVIET CHIEF ALLEGED BRITISH
CHIPMUNK-TYPE AIRCRAFT HAD INTERFERED WITH SCHOENEFELD
TRAFFIC ON JANUARY 14 IN VICINITY OF LUDWIGSFELDE,
APPROXIMATELY 12 MILES FROM SCHOENEFELD AND WELL OUT
OF THE SCHONEFELD TERMINAL AREA. WHEN BRITISH CHIEF
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STATED AIRCRAFT WAS THERE IN ACCORDANCE WITH 1946

AGREEMENT, SOVIETS REPLIED IT WAS NOT QUESTION OF LEGALITY BUT ONE OF AIR SAFETY. BRITISH RAISED ISSUE OF BARTCC-SCHOENEFELD LINK AS MEANS OF PROMOTING AIR SAFETY AND PREVENTING NEAR-MISS INCIDENTS.

2. AFTER DISPOSING OF THESE PRELIMINARIES, SOVIET CHIEF CAME TO WHAT SEEMED TO BE HIS MAIN POINT AND MADE STRONG APPEAL FOR RESPONSE TO THEIR SEPT 4 REQUEST FOR MEETING OF BASC CHIEF CONTROLLERS TO DISCUSS THEIR PROPOSED AGENDA AND ANY OTHER MATTERS. HE WANTED TO KNOW WHY ALLIED CHIEFS COULD NOT AGREE TO MEETING AND WHY SO MUCH TIME HAD ELAPSED WITHOUT RESPONSE TO THEIR REQUEST. U.S. AND BRITISH CONTROLLERS REPLIED MATTER HAD BEEN REFERRED TO THEIR AUTHORITIES AND WAS TILL UNDER CONSIDERATION.

3. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED BASC RENOVATION, SOVIET CHIEF STATED THAT BASC REALLY DID NOT NEED TO BE IN SUCH A LARGE BUILDING AND THAT IT WOULD BE EASIER TO BE IN A SMALLER MORE MODERN BUILDING. IN RESPONSE TO DIRECT, THEORETICAL QUESTION WHETHER, IF SMALLER, MORE MODERN BUILDING WOULD BE FOUND, SOVIET ELEMENT

WOULD BE WILLING TO MOVE, HE QUICKLY REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY.

4. COMMENT: WE ARE IN FULL ACCORD WITH POSITION TAKEN BY U.S. REP JANUARY 23 IN REGARD TO SOVIET SEPTEMBER 4 PROPOSALS (REFTEL). RATHER THAN WASTE MORE TIME IN ARGUMENT OVER TACTICS, HOWEVER, WE HAVE DRAFTED SCENARIO THAT BRITISH AND FRENCH IN BONNSEEEM SO INSISTENT ON, AND WILL CIRCULATE IT TO THEIR MISSIONS NEXT WEEK WITH REQUEST FOR URGENT CONSIDERATION. MISSION WILL ADDRESS SEPARATELY POSSIBILITY OF MOVE OUT OF ACA BUILDING.

5. USCOB CONCURS.KLEIN

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